(c) the present status of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Rajasthan, Gujarat, Punjab and Orissa have requested for setting up of Internet exchanges.

(b) and (c) The Internet Exchange is operational in Mumbai, Maharashtra since October 2003. Internet Exchanges in states are set up as and when techno-economic viability is established and adequate Internet Service Providers show interest. Funds for setting up Internet exchanges at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Lucknow and Mohali have been released.

Quality of mobiile telephone service of BSNL in U.P.

3828. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware that mobile telephone service of BSNL in Uttar Pradesh are not upto the mark, particularly, in small towns and villages;

(b) if so, the details of such places; "and

(c) the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) based cellular mobile telephone service being provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in Uttar Pradesh is working satisfactorily and is in general meeting the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

The cellular mobile network of BSNL is being continuously optimized for its performance as per the QoS parameters prescribed by TRAI.

BSNL has also made plans to cover small towns and villages (may be getting incidental mobile coverage presently) with Cellular Mobile Service of BSNL having population greater than 1000 by March, 2010 progressively depending upon techno-commercial feasibility.